

Later in a cool moment, when I thought of the incident, it seemed to me that this remarkable habit of shooting of pellets of faeces by these caterpillars must have some useful purpose. These caterpillars can easily keep their chambers of folded leaves clean and unsoiled by shooting their faeces outside. And this shooting can also be used with telling effect upon their enemies which may try to sneak into the chamber from the rear.

After about twelve or fifteen days one morning at about 9 o'clock I found a medium

C/o. BAGCHI TRANSPORT COMPANY,
44 CHITTARANJAN AVENUE,
CALCUTTA 700 012,
September 4, 1978.

big butterfly with white spotted black wings resting on the wall near that Curcuma plant. It was resting with its forewings upright and slightly apart and the hindwings resting flat, the white spots in the wings thus showing to advantage. It flew away when I tried to approach it. From the little that I could glimpse of the spotted wings and the sitting posture, I take it to be a Hesperiid. I wonder if this dapper and brisk butterfly could be the same dull and wormlike creature that behaved so disreputably with me a couple of weeks ago.

A. S. BHADURI

13. THE RED PIERROT *TALICADA NYSEUS* GUERIN (LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE) IN BOMBAY AND THE SALSETTE ISLAND

Though 'Bombay', presumably the erstwhile Bombay Presidency or Bombay State prior to bifurcation into Gujarat and Maharashtra in May 1960, is listed under the range of the Red Pierrot, *Talicauda nyseus* Guerin (Lycaenidae), there is neither a specific record of its occurrence in Bombay City and the Salsette Island in any of the lists published on the area in the *Journal* of the Bombay Natural History Society (Vols. 50: 331-9; 53: 282-4; 54: 215-6; 56: 358-9; 57: 233-4; 74: 190-1), nor any specimen collected in the area is in the Society's collection. In these circumstances two specimens of the butterfly collected in the Bombay area in May 1979:

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
HORNBILL HOUSE, OPP. LION GATE,
SHAHID BHAGAT SINGH ROAD,
BOMBAY 400 023,
June 30, 1979.

one by Mr. P. W. Soman from Dadar, and the other by Miss Renée Borges from a garden in Colaba are of interest. These two specimens add to the Lepidopteran fauna of Bombay and Salsette Islands, and are now registered in the Society's collection.

Mr. J. S. Serrao of the Society informs me that this butterfly is rather common mostly during the dry season in gardens in Bandra, Bombay, and that it invariably keeps to patches of miscellaneous assortments of garden plants, with *Bryophyllum* interspersed here and there. He has also come across this butterfly in Mahabaleshwar in April/May 1978.

NARESH CHATURVEDI